MURJIA
(Refutation of the Murji'ah)

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بِسْمِ ٱللَّهِ ٱلرَّحْمَٰنِ ٱلرَّحِيمِ

ٱلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ ٱلْعَالَمِينَ وَٱلصَّلَاةُ وَٱلسَّلَامُ عَلَىٰ إِمَامِ ٱلْأَنْبِيَاءِ وَإِمَامِ ٱلْمُرْسَلِينَ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَىٰ آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ

اللَّهُمَّ أَرِنَا الْحَقَّ حَقًّا وَارْزُقْنَا اتِّبَاعَهُ وَأَرِنَا الْبَاطِلَ بَاطِلًا وَارْزُقْنَا اجْتِنَابَهُ

Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuh.

Dear beloved brothers and sisters in Islam.

Welcome back to another one of our sessions.

Yesterday we refuted the Khawarij, and they were the first to be refuted because they were the first deviant group to emerge in the ummah of Muhammad ﷺ. So we had no choice but to deal with them first.

For every action there is a reaction. So when the Khawarij emerged, we had a reaction to them, and the reaction was the **Murji'ah** — the liberals, those who refused to make takfir even when the text is clear.

A Khawarij is a puritan who worships Allah just by fear and no hope. That is a puritan. And the other extreme, on the opposite side of the spectrum, that is the **Murji'ah**.

So today we shall be refuting the Murji'ah. They are on the opposite side of the spectrum of the Khawarij.

Definition of the Murji'ah

Before refuting their aqeedah, let us define them.

Murji' is one person and **Murji'ah** is the plural, the group.
It is like you say **Sahabi** is one person and **Sahabah** is the plural.

What is irja'?
The literal meaning is **to postpone** — to postpone judgment on a thing.
So a Murji' will say, "I will not pronounce takfir on this person. I leave him to Allah. I will postpone judgment on him."

The other meaning for irja' is **to give hope** — to give false hope to someone.

The **technical meaning** of the Murji'ah is:
A person who gives false hope to the fasiqun, the kafirun, and the munafiqun.
That is the technical meaning of the word Murji'ah. A Murji' is a liberal Muslim. He is very, very liberal with his views.

They call themselves "I'm a non-practising Muslim."

The opposite side of the spectrum is the puritan (the Khawarij). The puritan is an extremist. They worship Allah just by fear, fear of the hellfire.

We, the members of Ahlus Sunnah wal Jama'ah, worship Allah with **love for Allah, fear for Allah, and hope for Jannah** — love, fear, and hope.

But the puritans worship Allah just by fear.
The Murji'ah worship Allah just by hope, only hope. They hope to go to Paradise. No fear whatsoever, absolutely no fear, just hope. So they are lapsed Muslims.

The Murji'ah Went Astray in Their Definition of Iman

If you can't define a thing, you will go astray in regards to that thing. That is why every time we do a dars we define the topic for you.

The Murji'ah have several dodgy definitions of Iman.

1. The Definition of the Jahmiyyah (a group of Sufis and Murji'ah)

The Jahmiyyah, the followers of Jahm ibn Safwan, claim:
Iman is awareness or acknowledgement.
So if you are aware in your heart, you acknowledge with your heart that Allah exists — that's it, you are a believer, perfect in Iman.

We say to them: based upon your definition, you have included the Pharaoh of Egypt inside the fold of Islam.
In Surah al-Isra' (17:102), Musa said to the Pharaoh:
"You know that these signs have been sent down by none but your Lord, the Lord of the heavens and the earth as clear evidence."

The Pharaoh was aware about Allah and His powers, yet that awareness did not make him a Muslim.

Likewise, in **Surah al-Baqarah (2:146)**, the Jews and Christians were aware that Muhammad ﷺ was the Prophet, yet that did not make them believers in him.

2. Some Murji'ah Claim Iman Is Conviction of the Heart

Therefore if you are convinced in your heart that Allah exists and that Islam is the truth — that's it, you are a believer, perfect in Iman.

The Prophet's uncle, Abu Talib, was convinced in his heart that Muhammad ﷺ was a Prophet. He gave him backing and did not abandon him. Yet Abu Talib was not classified as a Muslim.

Also, Allah told us in **Surah an-Naml (27:14)** that the Pharaoh was convinced in his heart that Musa brought the truth, yet he still rejected it.

Therefore Iman cannot be conviction of the heart and nothing else. Iman has to be something more.

3. The Qaramiyyah Claim Iman Is Declaration with the Tongue

So if you declare your shahada with the tongue, that is sufficient to make you a Muslim, perfect in Iman.

We say to the Qaramiyyah: based upon your definition, all the hypocrites are Muslims, perfect in Iman.
In **Surah al-Munafiqun (63:1)** Allah says:
“When the hypocrites come to you, they say, ‘We testify that you are the Messenger of Allah.’ And Allah knows that you are indeed His Messenger, but Allah testifies that the hypocrites are liars.”

Allah threw back their shahada in their face like a dirty rag. He did not accept the shahada of the munafiqun.

The Correct Definition of Iman

The correct definition given to us by the classical scholars is:
Iman is conviction of the heart, declaration with the tongue, and implementation with the limbs.

Iman has three dimensions: heart, tongue, and limbs.

Contemporary Murji’ah (21st Century)

1. The Gulat Sufi (Extreme Murji’ah)

They don’t even make takfir on Christians. They say they are our brothers and Ahl al-Kitab.

Example: Hamza Yusuf.
When September 11 happened and the two buildings crumbled in New York, Hamza Yusuf said the firefighters who died were shuhada’ and will be in Jannah.

Sufis don’t make takfir on Christians.
They quote **Surah al-Baqarah (2:62)** to claim Christians and Jews will go to Jannah.
But that verse is referring to the companions of Musa and ‘Isa who believed in their prophets before the coming of Muhammad ﷺ.

As for the Jews and Christians who heard about Muhammad ﷺ and died rejecting him, their destination is the Hellfire forever.
Surah al-Bayyinah (98:6):
“Indeed, those who disbelieve from the People of the Scripture and the polytheists will be in the fire of Hell, abiding eternally therein. Those are the worst of creatures.”

The Prophet ﷺ said (Sahih Muslim):
“By the One in Whose hand is my soul, any Jew or Christian who hears about me and then dies while rejecting faith in me will be in the Hellfire.”

2. The Tablighi Jamaat

They are also from the Gulat Murji’ah.
They preach in their masjids: “Don’t call the kafir a kafir because you don’t know what is in his heart.”

This is dajjal aqeedah.
‘Umar ibn al-Khattab رضي الله عنه said:
“Revelation no longer comes down. Now we judge you by your external actions. If we see good from you, we accept it. If we see evil, we judge you accordingly.”

3. Nasiruddin al-Albani and the Madkhalis

Al-Albani was one of the biggest Murji’ of our time.
He claimed: “If you insult Muhammad ﷺ, you are not a kafir — you are only ill-mannered.”

This goes against the ijma’ of the Ummah.

He also said that dismantling the Sharia of Muhammad ﷺ is **kufr duna kufr** (minor kufr).
But Ibn Kathir and Ibn Taymiyyah stated it is the **ijma’** of the Muslims that whoever dismantles the Sharia becomes a kafir.

Other False Beliefs of the Murji’ah

- Iman does not increase or decrease.
- Actions are not part of Iman.
- “Who are you to judge?”
- Excuse of ignorance for those who worship false deities.
- It is halal to join kafir armies.
- It is halal to go to kafir courts for judgment.
- It is halal to follow democracy.

All of these have been refuted with clear Qur’an and Sunnah in the lecture.